

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 WHEREAS, the turning point of the campaign in the Pacific
2 was the liberation of the Japanese-held island of Iwo Jima; and

3 WHEREAS, during the liberation of Iwo Jima from Japanese
4 control, there were over eight hundred messages sent by six
5 Navajo code talkers, without a single error made; and

6 WHEREAS, Major Howard Connor, fifth marine division signal
7 officer, declared "Were it not for the Navajos, the marines
8 would never have taken Iwo Jima"; and

9 WHEREAS, Navajo code talkers were so important to the
10 effort in the Pacific that secret security was assigned,
11 without the knowledge of the code talkers, to protect the code
12 talkers who were in the front lines; and

13 WHEREAS, the Japanese were not able to break the marine
14 code used by the Navajo code talkers, and Navajo soldiers
15 captured at Bataan were unwilling to disclose the meaning of
16 the encoded words; and

17 WHEREAS, only six Navajo code talkers lost their lives
18 during combat throughout the entire war; and

19 WHEREAS, indicative of the extreme care taken to protect
20 the security of the code talker program, all records and
21 information about the Navajo code talkers were classified until
22 1968, when it became declassified as public information; and

23 WHEREAS, the success of the Navajo code talkers in the
24 south Pacific campaign helped to shorten the war and save
25 thousands of American and Japanese lives; and

. 144104. 1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

WHEREAS, two presidents of the United States have proclaimed that days be set aside to honor and remember Navajo code talkers and their role in bringing peace in the Pacific theater;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the secretary of highway and transportation be requested to designate state road 264, from the junction of state road 264 and United States highway 666 to the Arizona-New Mexico state line, as "Code Talker Memorial Highway"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor and the secretary of highway and transportation.